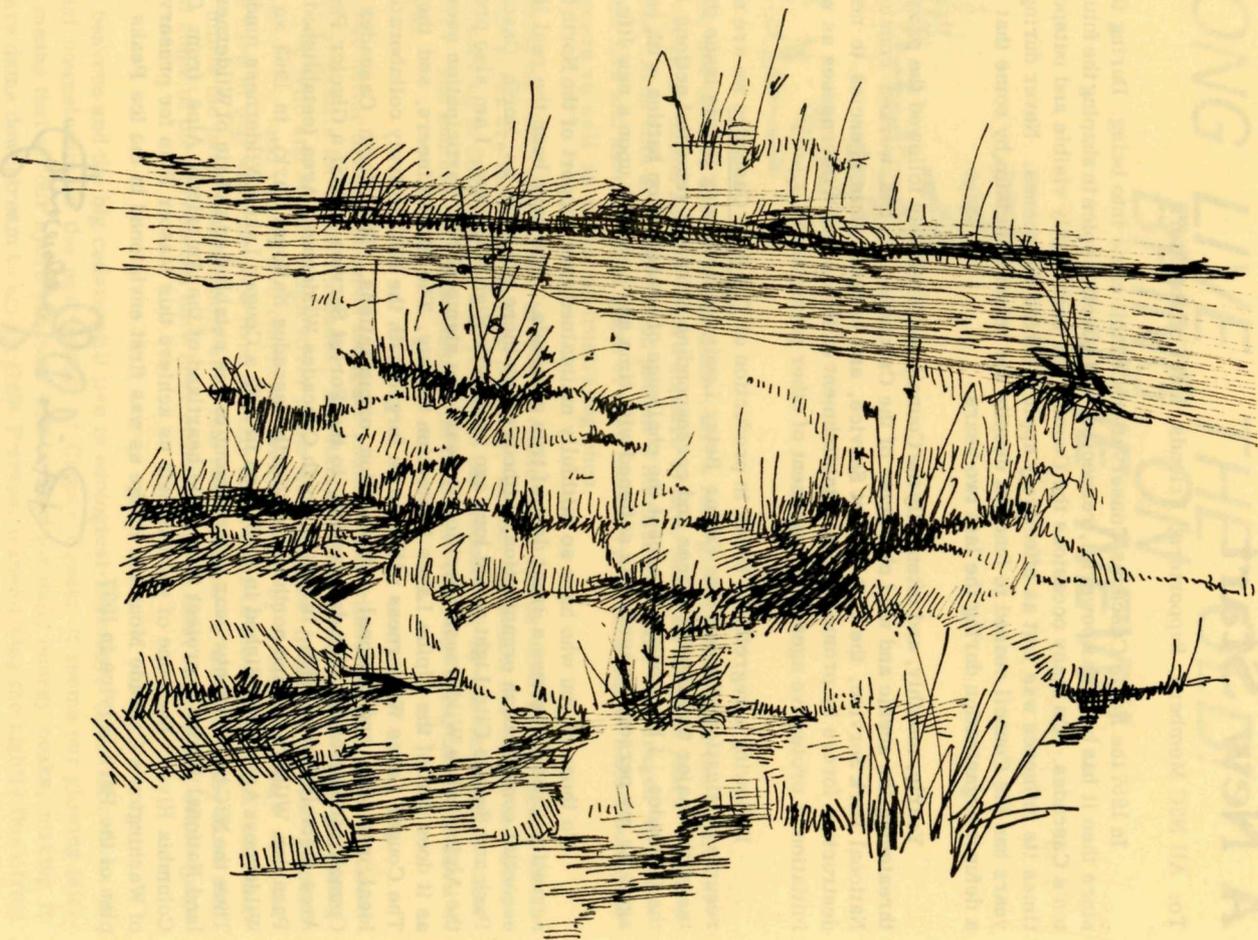


THE WILD CASCADES

Spring 1977



A New Start

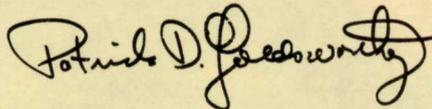
To: All N3C Members, Supporters, Friends, and Collaborators

In 1957 the North Cascades Conservation Council came into being. During the two decades since then it has become a powerful, respected, and effective voice in shaping the future of Washington's Cascades. On many occasions the Council has been highly visible and outspoken. At other times its influence was just as effectively applied behind the scenes. Never during these twenty years has the Council ceased to function despite the unfounded claim by some that it had become a defunct organization during the last two years.

Yearly, monthly, and often daily the Council has tirelessly followed the progress of forces threatening the scenic and wild character of the Cascades. It has worked constantly with the National Park Service, the U. S. Forest Service, and various state agencies to neutralize these destructive forces by promoting the establishment of Parks and Wildernesses as well as seeking initiation of protective agency management of other prime areas.

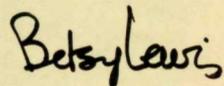
Following a regrettable break in production of The Wild Cascades we are now pleased to resume publication with our new Editor Betsy Lewis by discussing in this issue the current status of the major threatening forces and corresponding principal remedial actions being taken in the Cascades. I have begun to accept the challenge of conservation battles with eagerness once again as my personal tragedy has softened with time and I embark upon a new life.

To those of you who have so faithfully maintained your support of the North Cascades Conservation Council we owe a great debt of true gratitude. You have been the real life-blood of an essential conservation organization, without which there would be no North Cascades National Park and Seattle City Light would long ago have built High Ross Dam. I am also proud to say that the Alpine Lakes Wilderness specifically bears the stamp of N3C participation every bit as much as it does that of the Alpine Lakes Protection Society, The Mountaineers, and the Sierra Club. The Cougar Lakes Wilderness will also be forged with the N3C actively collaborating with other local, regional, and national conservation organizations. The North Cascades Conservation Council recommended, for designation, to the Forest Service in 1957 a Glacier Peak Wilderness Area (established in 1960), in 1960 a North Cascades Wilderness Area (established in 1968 as the Pasayten Wilderness and north unit of North Cascades National Park), in 1963 an Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area (established in 1976), and in 1962 a Cougar Lakes Wilderness (under study now). Thus the N3C has a twenty-year commitment to see established a chain of Wildernesses and wild-land National Parks to protect the scenic heartland of the American Alps from Canada to the Columbia River. Each one of you can help us achieve this Master Plan for preserving the beauty of Washington's Cascade Mountain Range as was first envisioned in the Ice Peaks National Park plan of the Park Service in 1937.

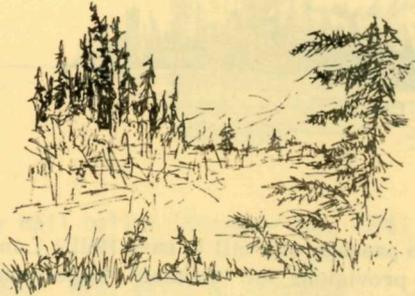


Beginning with this issue, The Wild Cascades, will appear quarterly. Publishing four rather than six times a year will, we hope, offset increased costs, particularly postage, and enable us to retain our present membership and subscription rates.

Our new editorial board -- Dick Fiddler, Harvey Manning, Joe Miller, and Phil Zalesky -- welcomes reader contributions of manuscripts, letters, black-and-white photographs and drawings. Please identify subjects of photographs and drawings. We retain submitted work and give credit to contributors upon publication. Submit work to the Editor at the address given on the mailing page of this issue. I look forward to a full mailbox.



LONG LIVE THE OLD! BRING ON THE NEW!



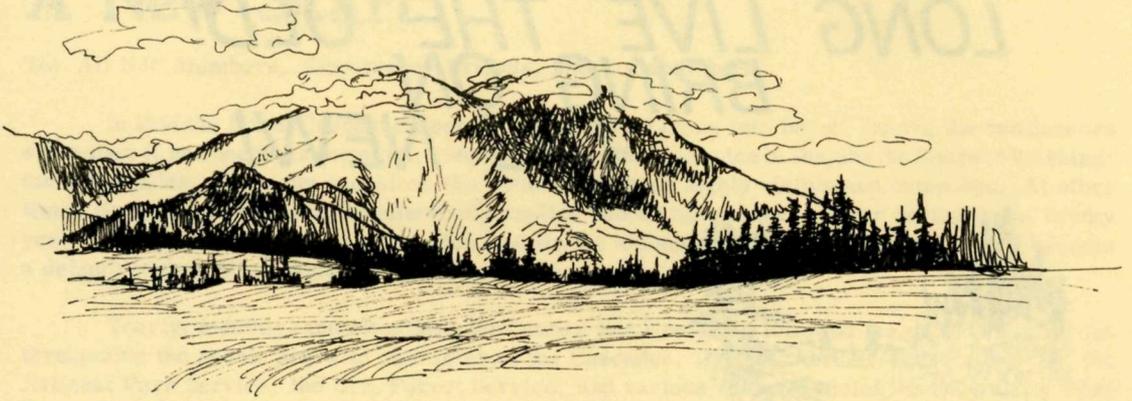
Every now and then we have a remarkable year; a rosy glow spreads over the North Cascades and the rest of the nation as well. 1976 appears to have been one of those years -- Hell's Canyon and Alpine Lakes both achieved -- and patient Wild Cascaders are encouraged to throw another log on the fire and have an extra glass of wild blueberry juice. One's honor bound to enjoy the good years as well as curse the frustrating ones.

Many situations didn't degenerate in 1976 -- cause for a cynics' festival, at least; those forgotten roadless areas are still with us (see page 21); neither Kennecott nor Exxon nor Bren-Mac nor whatsisname up in Skagit Queen has yet begun the landscaping by backhoe that is their specialty (page 11); and another year has passed with no commercial use being found for devil's club or slide alder.

Some of our better dreams snoozed along for another year without much action. National Park Wilderness proposals for North Cascades, Mt. Rainier, and Olympic are still gathering dust (page 11). The Wild and Scenic Skagit River plans are snagged (page 12) by the planned hot-brackish-water, fog, and radioactive chipmunk factory down by Lyman -- though old Mt. Baker may take care of that with one good burp any day now. Over in the Methow, the Gollydarn is still open -- minus the parts that annually slide into the streams -- but the valley floor still isn't paved, and some of the old demons have been exorcised or at least voted out of office (page 19).

The big beavers and the big cedars still live in ecological harmony, Ross Dam news is on page 18. Just downstream is the next hassle at Copper Creek. It seems our glowing (sic) nuclear future means that all our hydro projects will be used for daily energy peaks, making it necessary to have dams downstream to act as giant P-traps, transforming the nightly flush from Ross, for instance, into something resembling the flow of a river. (The fish, if the squabbles in the Sound are any evidence, are still pretty confused and miserable about the whole thing.) What would Gary Snyder have thought, up on Sourdough Lookout?

On the national scene, things aren't too bad at all. The Alaska oil folks are still engaged in their all-out debate: spills on the tundra or in Puget Sound? There's still hope we may house-break them first. Back in Congress, in a flood of last minute legislation, several good bills were passed and signed: Shi Shi, Point of the Arches, and the east shore of Lake Ozette are now part of Olympic National Park; the callous Bureau of Land Management now is directed to go forth and do wilderness studies on its roadless areas; and a good toxic substance bill made the grade. Earlier, a compromise forestry bill was enacted; it doesn't have nearly the provisions it should, but there is some useful new nationwide protection for National Forest land.



Early in the year, the really good feelings began with passage of a bill to save Hell's Canyon, on the Idaho-Oregon border. The final bill contained provisions for "instant" wilderness for much of the area, National Recreational Area status for developed lands, wilderness study for several more disputed areas, and Wild and Scenic River status for a goodly portion of the Snake and several of its tributaries. (The dam builders were heard grinding their teeth in rage for months, then in dismay and horror as Teton Dam visited death and destruction upon the agricultural land it was supposed to benefit.)

Hell's Canyon was worth the years of struggle, and so was our own Alpine Lakes, in The Wild Cascades' home country, established as a proud part of the National Wilderness System on June 12th. One never gets everything desired, and there will still be problems in the Alpine Lakes country, particularly in the area surrounding the wilderness, which received little formal protection (see, for instance, the I-90 article, page 23). But the bill did include a large, balanced Wilderness Area, including (believe it or not!!) some valleys with trees in them (page 8). All in all, a very good year.

In the year to come? Some unfinished business, and the big hearings for the Cougar Lakes (page 27). Perhaps it's time to do something better for the Mt. St. Helens country (page 14).

And finally, in the Forest Technology Department, we must disclose the breakthrough in bear ecology made by one of the faithful on the N3C board. This person was observed running through the pines in the moonlight in his underwear, uttering oaths and brandishing the Secret Weapon, which soon identified itself as a (blush) chain saw. Claimed it was the only thing the bear would pay attention to, and after all, it was the third time the creature had been at the black-berry jam. We feel forgiving, but don't be surprised if the bear all put in to the Park Service for earplugs next year!



At the October 30, 1976 meeting, the Board of Directors
elected the following officers for 1976-1977

PRESIDENT	Patrick D. Goldsworthy
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT	Philip H. Zalesky
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT	Walter Halperin
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Thomas H.S. Brucker
RECORDING SECRETARY	Mrs. Polly Dyer
TREASURER	Joseph W. Miller

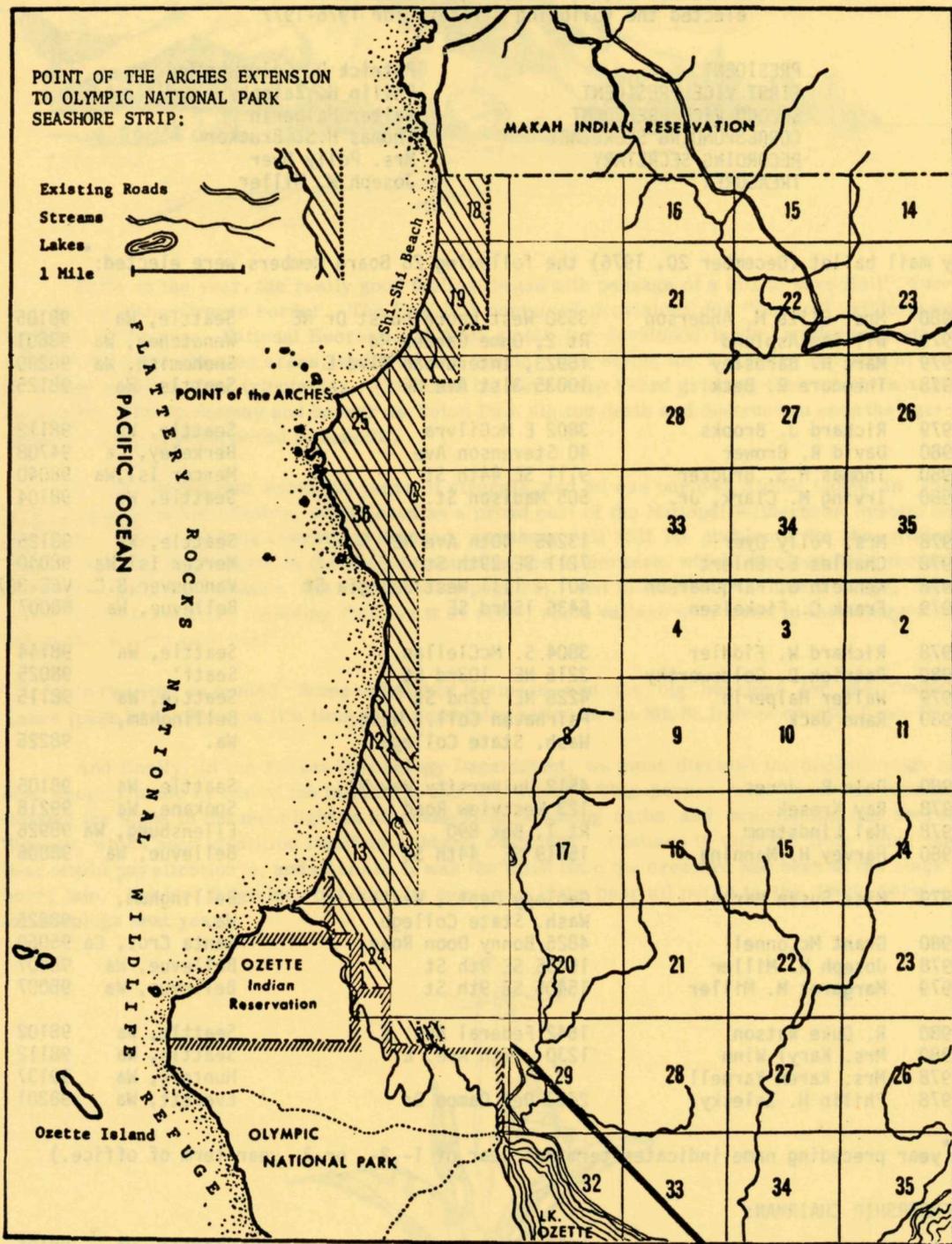
By mail ballot (December 20, 1976) the following 28 Board members were elected:*

1980	Mrs. Eliza M. Anderson	3530 West Laurelhurst Dr NE	Seattle, Wa	98105
1979	William Asplund	Rt 2, Ohme Garden Rd	Wenatchee, Wa	98801
1979	Marc H. Bardsley	16923, Interurban Blvd E	Snohomish, Wa	98290
1978	Theodore R. Beck	10035 31st Ave NE	Seattle, Wa	98125
1979	Richard J. Brooks	3802 E McGilvra	Seattle, Wa	98112
1980	David R. Brower	40 Stevenson Ave	Berkeley, Ca	94708
1980	Thomas H.S. Brucker	9111 SE 44th St	Mercer Isl, Wa	98040
1980	Irving M. Clark, Jr.	505 Madison St.	Seattle, Wa	98104
1978	Mrs. Polly Dyer	13245 40th Ave NE	Seattle, Wa	98125
1978	Charles E. Ehlert	7211 SE 29th St	Mercer Isl, Wa	98040
1978	Kenneth G. Farquharson	401 - 1111 West Georgia St	Vancouver, B.C.	V6E-3G7
1979	Frank C. Fickeisen	5436 153rd SE	Bellevue, Wa	98007
1978	Richard W. Fiddler	3804 S. McClellan	Seattle, Wa	98144
1980	Patrick D. Goldsworthy	3215 NE 103rd St	Seatt ¹	98025
1979	Walter Halperin	4228 NE 92nd St	Seattle, Wa	98115
1980	Rand Jack	Fairhaven Coll., West. Wash. State College	Bellingham, Wa.	98225
1980	Dale R. Jones	4512 University Way NE	Seattle, Wa	98105
1978	Ray Kresek	123 Westview Road	Spokane, Wa	99218
1978	Hal Lindstrom	Rt 1, Box 890	Ellensburg, Wa	98926
1980	Harvey H. Manning	15819 SE 44th St	Bellevue, Wa	98006
1979	Miss Susan Marsh	Geology Dept., West. Wash. State College	Bellingham, Wa.	98225
1980	Grant McConnell	4825 Bonny Doon Road	Santa Cruz, Ca	95060
1978	Joseph W. Miller	15405 SE 9th St	Bellevue, Wa	98007
1979	Margaret M. Miller	15405 SE 9th St	Bellevue, Wa	98007
1980	R. Duke Watson	1642 Federal Ave. E	Seattle, Wa	98102
1980	Mrs. Karyl Winn	1230 16th Ave. E.	Seattle, Wa	98112
1978	Mrs. Karen Yarnell		Hunters, Wa	99137
1978	Philip H. Zalesky	2433 Del Campo Dr	Everett, Wa	98201

(* year preceding name indicates terminal year of 1-, 2-, or 3- year term of office.)

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:

Helen M. Waterman	4683 41st Ave NE	Seattle, Wa	98105
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CONGRESS ADDS SHORES TO OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK

by polly dyer

On October 21, 1976, President Ford signed the Act adding the remaining seven and one-half miles of essentially roadless Pacific Coast in Washington State to Olympic National Park. The addition includes the magnificent Point of the Arches, Shi Shi Beach, and tiny Lakes Seafeld and Willoughby, the latter having nearby beautiful stands of cedar. Also to become part of Olympic National Park is a fringe along the south and east shores of Lake Ozette, to encompass up to 1,500 acres, the exact area to be determined by on-the-ground surveys. This strip, together with the lake's west shore, already within the original Olympic National Park coastal strip, should assure retention of Lake Ozette's predominantly primitive character.

Credit for these additions being made in 1976 is due to a great many people. Special thanks, however, are due to Governor Dan Evans whose leadership succeeded in having the major land owners involved and the conservationists getting together; to those owners -- Crown Zellerbach, ITT-Rayonier, Milwaukee Land, and Weyerhaeuser -- for maintaining a logging moratorium in the area to give Congress an opportunity to consider the addition and take action. Special thanks are also extended to Congressman Don Bonker and his legislative assistant, Jim Van Nostrand, as well as to Congressman Lloyd Meeds and Senator Henry M. Jackson for successfully guiding the legislation through the House and the Senate. Doug Scott, the Northwest Conservation Representative, acted on behalf of Olympic Park Associates and the other conservation groups, in many of the discussions leading to the passage of the bill.

The Act also rearranged the west boundaries of the main section of the Olympic National Park to follow the hydrographic divide rather than section lines; private lands in the heart of the Bogachiel were acquired; the National Park Service now has jurisdiction over the road ("parkway") to Hurricane Ridge; a few other minor adjustments were made. A major provision directs a study of the area north of Lake Quinault and the Quinault River to examine the National Park values of the intermixed federal and private inholdings in this corner of Olympic National Park. The private inholders of approximately 2,168 acres desire to be excluded from Olympic National Park; the conservationists have contended the area retains future as well as current National Park values in spite of the National Park Service's past benign neglect of the area. Following the report from the impartial study, due in two years, Congress will have to act within ninety legislative days; otherwise the 1976 legislation provides for automatic elimination of the area by the Secretary of the Interior. Conservationists will be keeping a close eye on the study and future Congressional response.

To all N3C members who received the special mailings on Olympic and who wrote letters in support -- thank you!

* * *

Polly Dyer, charter member and recording secretary of the North Cascades Conservation Council, is President of Olympic Park Associates and a member of the Washington State Forest Practices Board.

ALPINE LAKES: several ceremonies and a victory to celebrate by dick fiddler

October 23, 1976, Alpental: not sunny, not raining, a bit brisk -- a typical autumn day in the Cascades, most appropriate for the formal dedication of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. A day for speeches, awards, and reporters. Representative Lloyd Meeds (D-Everett) was the main speaker, a well-deserved honor for the man who guided the bill through the legislative and political thickets of Washington State and Congress, shepherding it so well that in the end a version acceptable to both industry and conservationists was passed. The Wilderness Area is "a monument to nature and to the process under which it will be preserved for us and for future generations," Meeds said. Right on, Lloyd!

Governor Dan, Senator Jackson, and others of the state's Congressional delegation were also there, along with Forest Service officials and hundreds of the people who worked so hard and so long to make it happen. Ben Hayes spoke for conservationists -- beloved Ben, eight years ago the founder of the Alpine Lakes Protection Society, a leader who hardly slowed down even after two bouts of open-heart surgery. After the ceremonies the crowd had a convivial lunch, rode the chair lift, and dwelt on the splendor of the hundreds of peaks, valleys, and lakes that will now be secure from development and mechanized intrusion.

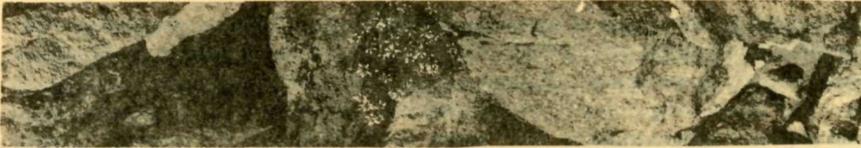
October 3, 1976, Owhi Campground: another, smaller ceremony in a fine stand of tall trees by the shore of Cooper Lake, an event sponsored by conservationists, a much less formal affair. Some had hiked up Tired Creek that morning through a Japanese landscape of mist, rocks, autumn reds and yellows, perfectly ripe blueberries. Others paddled canoes in the lake with their kids; the rest clustered around a fire sharing wine, foods, and coffee. Everyone took pictures of everyone else, and there were speeches here too--from the top of a picnic table instead of into microphones arranged on a podium. Tireless Bill Asplund from Wenatchee set the tone for this ceremony, telling the group that it was a rare privilege in a person's life to help create a gift like the Alpine Lakes for those who come after; others surveyed the happy group and remarked -- truly -- that it was hopeless to try to name all the names and that everyone had played a key role.

July 12, 1976: a ceremony by telephone. This was the day that President Ford would sign or veto the Alpine Lakes bill -- and reporters were talking veto. The Forest Service and the dreaded Office of Management and Budget had both recommended a veto. The Administration had been generally hostile to the issue, other than allowing the Forest Service proposal to go to Congress. Governor Evans and Representative Joel Pritchard had lobbied the President to sign the bill. Everyone waited, but no one could really guess what would happen.

The phone call came to the Sierra Club office that afternoon. The President had just signed the bill into law. The good news went out to everyone on the office telephones: the nation's newest Wilderness, and with one exception, the largest addition to the Wilderness System since the North Cascades legislation of 1967.

* * * *

Almost all legislation is a compromise; what did we gain and lose in the Alpine Lakes bill? Approximately 392,000 acres of Wilderness Area was created, about 80% of which is "instant wilderness", the remaining 20% "intended wilderness", to be added automatically as private land intermingled with Federal land in checkerboard ownership is acquired by exchange or condemnation. (Exchange negotiations between the Forest Service and timber landowners have already begun.) The Wilderness includes most of the key lowland valleys we had sought: Deception Creek,



Jack Creek, the unroaded parts of Icicle Creek, Ingalls Creek, Mineral Creek, Box Canyon Creek, Snow Creek, and all of Chiwaukum Creek except for the infamous Section 35. A trail easement was arranged for Trout Creek with other such arrangements likely. The wilderness has a good balance of uplands and lowlands, of rock, meadow, and forest.

In addition to the Wilderness itself, the Forest Service has established a "dispersed recreation zone" of 52,000 acres in the Teanaway and Fortune Creek drainages, and two "Scenic Areas": 12,000 acres in the Mt. Index region and 7,000 acres on the west slopes of Tumwater Canyon. Timber harvest will not occur in these three areas, all of them included in a 527,000 acre "management unit" surrounding the Wilderness. A management plan will be drawn up for this area by the Forest Service, providing, where appropriate, for timber harvest and development in balance and harmony with the unit's recreational and scenic resources.

This management plan is about all that remains of the National Recreation Area proposal put forward by conservation groups. Despite conflicts over development of the perimeter area, Congress was not ready to set forth Federal guidelines for zoning of private land; elimination of these provisions for the proposed legislation was the price extracted by the timber industry for their support of the balance of the proposal. The fate of several key areas awaits the outcome of this management plan -- generally once-roaded or logged areas that Congress was unwilling to add to the Wilderness proper: Pratt River, Cooper River, and Eightmile Creek, for instance.

The North Cascades Conservation Council will take an active role in developing the management plan: much remains to be done concerning the Alpine Lakes. But a great step forward has been taken, a monument created, a legacy left, a victory won, and the N3C was pleased to play its part. Members' dues and contributions paid the way last year for two members of our board, Polly Dyer and Tom Brucker, to testify and lobby in Washington D. C. in support of the bill. We well remember the long struggle which pre-dates even the 1963 proposal we co-sponsored. N3C members should feel proud -- we all did it! Hard as it is to believe, it's the Alpine Lakes Wilderness now, and suddenly a wonderfully quiet, noncontroversial place.

* * *

Dick Fiddler, new North Cascades Conservation Council board member, is active in the Sierra Club.

YEAR IN REVIEW

a compendium of conservation issues in 1976

N3C to advise on copper creek dam

During the North Cascades National Park hearings Congress amended the original proposed Ross Lake National Recreation Area by moving its western boundary five miles downstream. This was done to place the site of a dam and reservoir proposed by Seattle City Light entirely within the National Recreation Area.

The proposed Copper Creek Reservoir would be operated for the purpose of eliminating large variations in the Skagit River discharge resulting from peaking operations of the upstream power plants. Although at-site power is not the primary objective of the Copper Creek Project,

there will be an average annual power output of about 50,000 kilowatts. This re-regulating reservoir is planned to maintain a minimum downstream discharge of 1,000 CFS and to avoid sudden changes in discharge resulting from increased efficient use of additional generating capacity in the Gorge Power Plant. The fluctuating Copper Creek reservoir would have a maximum level of 480 feet elevation and impound approximately four miles of the Skagit River between Copper Creek and the town of Newhalem. Portions of the North Cascades Highway would be flooded and have to be relocated. Numerous potential campsites, some of which are in the North Cascades National Park Service plans, would also be flooded. Fish spawning areas would be lost.

Seattle City Light has just commenced a unique series of meetings with citizens to be advised as to how this project should be approached. The North Cascades Conservation Council has been invited to participate in this advisory review process. Initially we have been asked to help select, from approximately fifty applicants, an appropriate consultant for Seattle City Light to hire for the purpose of preparing an environmental impact statement on the project.

cascades park wilderness hearings anticipated

The North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area totaled a 674,000 acre North Cascades Complex, 515,880 acres of which were recommended (Exhibit A, North Cascades Complex, August 1970) by the National Park Service to Congress for Wilderness designation. Subsequently Senator Frank Church conducted public hearings in Washington, D. C., during which he directed the National Park Service to change their recommended non-wilderness campsite enclaves and one-eighth mile non-wilderness management zone, just within the boundaries of the three-unit Complex, both to additional wilderness acreage. Thus Exhibit A, modified as directed by Senator Church, has now been recommended to Congress by the National Park Service. Both Senate and House Interior Committee hearings on a bill incorporating these recommendations need to be conducted next.

Mt. Rainier National Park is composed of 235,193 acres, 210,700 acres of which have been recommended (Exhibit A, Final Environmental Statement Master Plan, February 1976) by the National Park Service to Congress for designation as wilderness. Legislative enactment of this recommendation also will be subjected to public hearings in the Senate and House, possibly in an omnibus bill including recommended wildernesses for other National Parks (i. e. Olympic National Park: 834,890 acre National Park Service proposed wilderness out of the total 897,365 acres in the Park.)

N3C board takes stand on trail proposal

H. R. 6887, passed in the last congressional session, authorizes "a study for the purpose of determining the feasibility and desirability of designating the Pacific Northwest Trail as a national scenic trail."

The trail (see *The Wild Cascades*, Dec. '73 - Jan. '74) would extend approximately 1000 miles from the Continental Divide in Glacier National Park to the ocean beach in Olympic National Park. The route in the North Cascades would follow the Boundary Trail through the Pasayten Wilderness, swing south to cross Ross Dam, proceed through the North Cascades National Park on the Big Beaver-Whatcom Pass-Hannegan Pass trail and exit to the Puget Sound lowlands along the slopes and adjacent valleys of Mt. Baker.

The proposed trail was discussed at length at the N3C board meeting on October 30. The board recognized that some portions of the trail pass through unprotected lands and that designation as a "national scenic trail" would forestall undesirable development. On balance, however, the board feels that the proposed routing through the North Cascades would impose unacceptable impacts on fragile terrain. The following resolution was passed unanimously and delivered to the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, the agency conducting the feasibility study:

"The North Cascades Conservation Council is inalterably opposed to the routing of an officially designated "Pacific Northwest Trail" anywhere within the boundaries of the Pasayten Wilderness Area and the North Cascades National Park. This stand is occasioned by the following concerns of the Council:

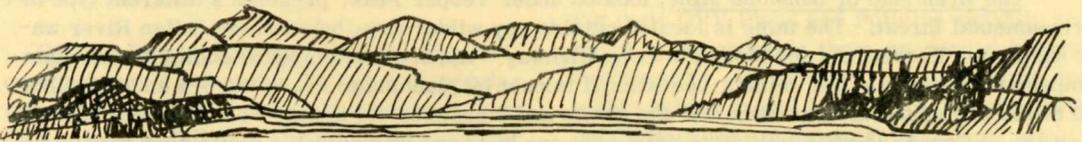
1. Trail use in both the North Cascades National Park and the Pasayten Wilderness Area is already approaching a maximum. In order to protect the resource, the National Park Service has been forced to ration back-county permits on lands under its jurisdiction. While the U. S. Forest Service has not yet taken so drastic a step, it recognizes the problem and is developing data on carrying capacity of lands in the Pasayten Wilderness. The only possible trail routes through the above federal lands cross extremely fragile areas not suitable for mass-recreation use. It is a certainty that creation of a national scenic trail through these areas would attract more trail users than the resource can withstand.

2. Experience with the Pacific Crest Trail has shown that designation of a "national scenic trail" causes the land-management agencies to spend disproportionate amounts of funds on the construction and maintenance of the designated trail. These funds are siphoned off from construction and maintenance of more needed trails in other areas.

3. As has been shown by the example of the Pacific Crest Trail, a "national scenic trail" is constructed to high standards inconsistent with the National Wilderness Preservation System. Such construction imposes irreversible damage on the wilderness resource and detracts from the wilderness experience of the visitor.

skagit study to be released

Congress, through the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, has directed the U. S. Forest Service to "study" the feasibility of adding 166 miles of the Skagit, Cascade, Sauk, and Suiattle Rivers to the National Rivers System. These studies, including public hearings and draft environmental impact studies, have been under way for over five years now. Because of the proposed construction of a nuclear power plant on the Skagit there was a threat for awhile that the study would be taken away from the Forest Service and turned over to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Fortunately, this did not happen and now a revised environmental impact statement which was sent to the Chief of the Forest Service in November 1976 will next go to the Secretary of Agriculture before its release for public comment in 1977.



wilderness mines: cause for concern

The Kennecott Copper Company ten years ago became the target, and still is, of one of the North Cascades Conservation Council's most important campaigns. In 1967 this international mining company, one of the world's largest, unveiled to conservationists its plans to excavate an open-pit mine, operate an ore-concentrating mill, create enormous tailing dumps, and construct a road -- all within the very heart of the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area. The road which was to be built immediately has never been started, and the Forest Service has yet to receive an application from the Kennecott Copper Company for access to its private patented mining claims.

Kennecott's activities, carried out by its exploratory division, the Bear Creek Mining Company, have consisted of extensive exploratory drilling on Miner's Ridge and Plummer Mountain between Image Lake and Suiattle Pass. Access to these drilling sites was provided by helicopter. The result of all this activity was the patenting of additional claims several years ago

and creation of the Cascades' largest garbage dump -- miles of plastic pipe, sheets of plywood, rusting oil drums, hardened sacks of cement, wire, lumber, and old clothing scattered everywhere throughout the meadows of this fragile alpine country.

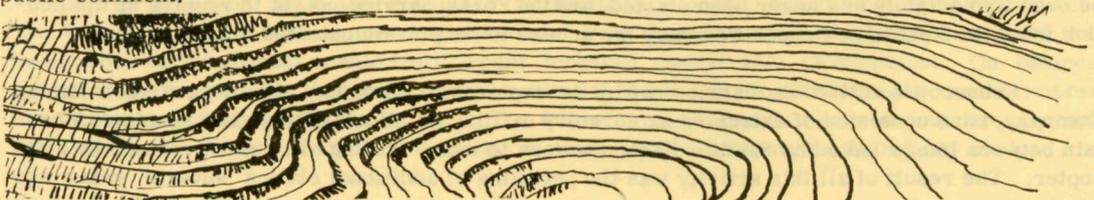
While nothing threatening seems imminent, Kennecott's private lands constitute a sleeping giant that may at any time try to destroy the Glacier Peak Wilderness. It will be expensive to stop this giant either through lawsuits or land purchase. When that day comes, be prepared to listen to our appeals for help.

The Skagit Queen Mine threatens the heart of another wilderness. This is also a patented mining claim located in the heart of the North Cascades National Park wilderness, twelve miles up Thunder Creek from the North Cascades Highway. Mr. Widing, President of Widing Transportation, Inc. (bulk hauling of dry chemicals and petroleum all over the west) owns this mine and has applied to the National Park Service for a right-of-way permit to construct a road to his property. The National Park Service denied his application. Currently Mr. Widing has appealed to the Solicitor's Office of the Department of the Interior for a reversal of the National Park Service's earlier denial of the permit application. The Solicitor has advised Mr. Widing that there is a necessary delay in reviewing his appeal until the Department of Interior has written new "Comprehensive Mining Regulations" based upon the new Surface Mining Act (S. 2371) which Congress passed September 28, 1976.

Several courses of action are possible. Mr. Widing's appeal may succeed, in which case an environmental impact statement with public input will be required before the construction could be approved or disapproved. The case might become the subject of a lawsuit. The Park Service and Mr. Widing may negotiate a purchase by the government of his patented claims. Since Congress last year raised the ceiling of land acquisition an additional \$1,000,000 over what it was when the North Cascades National Park was created in 1968, there is now money for the purchase of such threatening private lands within the Park.

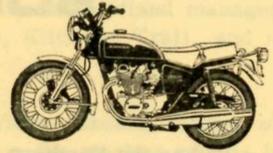
This is an immediate threat and you can help in several ways. Let Congressman Lloyd Meeds (House Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20510) know how concerned you are. Mr. Widing (c/o Widing Transportation, Inc., 24300 Pacific Highway South, Kent, Washington 98031) should be told that his action is atrocious and that patronage of his company should be avoided if he persists in seeking to destroy the North Cascades National Park wilderness.

The Bren Mac or Sunshine Mine, located under Vesper Peak, presents a different type of environmental threat. The mine is located outside any wilderness, between the Sultan River water supply for Everett and the Mountain Loop Highway. Apparent attempts are being made by this company to minimize the mine's operational impact by planning to crush the ore underground, and to put 60% of the tailings back into the shafts and tunnels of the mine. The Bren Mac Mining Company of Canada is still drilling to define the ore body and was studying a site near the Mountain Loop Highway by Perry Creek for depositing the tailings that can't be put back into the mine. Now it appears that the Perry Creek site is undesirable and yet a third location is under study. Test drilling is currently being done on a 300-acre flat south of Red Bridge Campground, four miles west of Silverton on the Mountain Loop Highway, and ten miles from the Forest Service Road 3012 leading from the northern portal of the mine tunnel. When the company has decided what the feasible operational alternatives are, it will so advise the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie Forest, which will then prepare an Environmental Impact Study which is to be made available for public comment.



ORV Plans: A Progress Report

by Ruth Ittner



Presidential Executive Order 11644 required that each public land management agency develop and implement a policy for the use of Off-Road Vehicles (ORVs) within its boundaries. The purpose of the order is to protect the resources of the land, to promote the safety of all users and to minimize conflict among the various uses of those lands. Each agency must provide for the administrative designation of specific areas and trails on public lands on which the use of off-road vehicles may be permitted, and areas in which the use of off-road vehicles may not be permitted. It must also ensure adequate opportunity for public participation.

What is an off-road vehicle? It is defined as any motorized vehicle, designed for or capable of cross country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain. The term excludes any registered motorboats, any military, fire, emergency or law enforcement vehicles used for emergency purposes, and any vehicles expressly authorized under permit, lease, license or contract.

What is the status of the Off-Road Vehicle Plans in the four National Forests in the Cascades?

Gifford Pinchot National Forest: The first comprehensive policy for the use and regulation of off-road vehicles went into effect in June 1976. In the fall the Forest Supervisor requested assistance in assessing the effectiveness of the policy and asked that observations, concerns, and suggestions be submitted by November 1976 so that changes could become effective by June 1977.

Wenatchee National Forest: In May 1976 an Off-Road Vehicle Use and Policy Draft Environmental Statement was presented to the public for review with five alternative actions. Representatives of trail users organizations served on an advisory committee to assist in reviewing the final draft. The final plan is now being printed and will be mailed to interested organizations about the end of February 1977.

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest: Since policy was already being developed on most of the Forest as a result of the Alpine Lakes, Naches-Tieton-White River and Mt. Baker land use studies, ORV use was addressed in the studies and public opinion sought and incorporated in the process. For the North Bend and Skykomish Ranger District (not included in the land use studies) it was proposed that no change be made in existing ORV regulations. When it became apparent that the land use studies were progressing much more slowly than anticipated and therefore would not meet the Executive Order deadline, a proposed ORV Plan for the entire Forest was prepared. For this purpose field data and public input on ORV use was extracted from the land use studies. The proposed ORV Plan was mailed to organizations November 24, 1976 and comments requested by January 17, 1977. An Environmental Analysis Report was prepared and available for review and/or loan at designated places.

Okanogan National Forest: March 1, 1977 is the deadline for the first annual review of the Forest's ORV Plan approved during 1976.

Since all four National Forests are reviewing their ORV Plans and Policies annually and revising or updating them as needed; hikers, backpackers, snowshoers, cross country and alpine skiers should carefully note and record conflicts of use among users, incidents affecting safety of users and damage occurring to resources. Photographs of resource damage with the location clearly indicated are helpful. When reporting conflicts among users and incidents affecting safety, it is important to indicate types of users, where it occurred, what happened, an analysis of the problem and suggestions as to how safety can be promoted and/or conflicts minimized. The N3C would be happy to forward any comments to the appropriate Forest.

* * *

Ruth Ittner chairs the Mountaineers' Trails Coordinating Committee.

SOUTH CASCADES REPORT

russ jolly

Bad as the Northern Pacific land grant was - and is - there is another legacy from the 19th century as bad or worse: the Mining Laws of 1872. Unbelievably, these laws still permit any mining outfit to go around building roads and digging holes almost anywhere on our public lands.

Since 1970, Duval Corporation, the mining subsidiary of Pennzoil, has had core drilling rigs operating in the Green River Valley near Ryan Lake and on the slopes of Goat Mountain. The entire area is tied up with their mining claims. Like hyenas, others have staked claims around the perimeter of the Duval claims hoping to share in the loot if Duval opts to go for the kill. As of last summer, Duval had several core drilling rigs operating simultaneously in different parts of the areas in an attempt to determine the dimensions of the ore body. To get the rigs in they have punched lousy roads in to the forest on either side of the Forest Service road between Ryan Lake and Polar Star Mine. On the very steep drilling sites, the Forest Service says it will require access by helicopter rather than by road. The obscenity of an open-pit mine on the Green River is unthinkable, or rather, we would prefer not thinking about it. This ominous possibility will meet total opposition by a united front of northwest conservationists.

* * *

Over the years motorcycles have inflicted permanent damage on the Green River Trail and the Goat Mountain Trail in the northern part of the proposed Mt. St. Helens National Monument, creating large morasses in the first two miles of the former below Polar Star Mine and severe pumice erosion scars which will never heal on the latter. To prevent continuation of the damage, the Forest Service, in June 1976, announced closure of these two trails to motorized use. However, no one got around to putting up the closure signs, so in August the destruction was going on as usual. Several machines, including one large street motorcycle, were seen on the Green River Trail in July, leaving tracks a foot deep. In August, several scooters were also encountered by hikers on the Goat Mountain Trail. Clearly, motorcycles won't stop using these trails until they are signed, if then.

* * *

For many years, elk hunters have been building fancy camps along the Green River, replete with acres of plastic and other refinements, leaving all this junk in the woods as if packing it out was too much trouble. Besides, they expected to return the next year. In August of 1976 one hiker reported finding the "biggest garbage heap" he had ever seen in view of the Green River Trail. Closer examination revealed the ruined remains of a giant lean-to with a roof consisting of 22 sheets of corrugated aluminum. The adjacent area was strewn with all kinds of kitchenware and assorted junk. Since most of the Green River frontage is Weyerhaeuser land, the Forest Service says there is nothing it can do about it. However, now that the Green River land exchange, including Miners Creek, has been agreed upon, the Forest Service should make plans for dealing with this type of king-sized littering by people who think they can do whatever they damn please in the woods. Not in our National Monument they won't.

* * *

INVALUABLE NEW GUIDEBOOK - PRESERVATION PLAN FOR THE SOUTH CASCADES

Hiking the Gifford Pinchot Back Country, by the Columbia Group of the Sierra Club, 2637 S.W. Water, Portland, OR 97201. 70 pages, paperbound, 12 maps paperbound. \$2.50

This is a superb guide for hikers -- but it is, in addition, an admirable study guide for preservationists, outlining a plan for protection of de facto wildlands in Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

Included are proposed additions to Mount Rainier National Park, the proposed Mt. St. Helens National Monument, proposed additions to the Goat Rocks and Mt. Adams Wildernesses, and proposals for one form or another of backcountry scenic recreational-wildland management for the Columbia Gorge, Big Lava Bed, Indian Heaven, Lewis River, Klickitat Trail, and much more.

The book describes in detail the trails in more than 30 individual areas, telling where they are and where they go and what they show. Other guidebooks on the market sample highlights of the South Cascades; this one rather exhaustively discusses hiking opportunities in most of the roadless areas (as of 1976) of the region having great backcountry or scenic recreation values. At present, not a single one of the areas discussed in the book has any secure protection of any kind, and many are threatened in some degree by present logging plans.

Buy the book, enjoy the country -- and then write letters to the Forest Service.

This is a superb guide for hikers -- but it is, in addition, an admirable study guide for preservationists, outlining a plan for protection of de facto wildlands in Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

INCIDENT AT MINERS CREEK

In early 1975 Gifford Pinchot National Forest, apparently not having heard what happened to the Watergate gang, got caught trying to keep a secret. Until February it succeeded in concealing the existence of a private logging road built by the Weyerhaeuser Company along Miners Creek in the proposed Mt. St. Helens National Monument. Supervisor Spencer Moore was quite embarrassed, since the secret had been kept from him, too. Authorized (by whom?) in January 1974 and built in September, somehow mention of it was omitted from an impact statement issued in October. Doug Scott, Northwest Representative of the Sierra Club, Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, and N3C, described the road as "one of the most deceitful things the Forest Service has ever allowed to happen in this area." Dave Howard of the Mt. St. Helens Protective Association said, "We've been talking continuously with the Forest Service about a national monument . . . Now they call us out of the blue and say, 'We thought you should know there's a road.'" Dale Jones, Seattle representative of Friends of the Earth, said he found it "curious that the Forest supervisor only just found out about the road he authorized a year ago."

Since the new Weyerhaeuser road runs up 3 miles of one of the last unlogged valleys in Southwest Washington, for 2,000 feet crossing public land, there was no way the Forest Service was going to wiggle out of the mess. In fact, their blunder may have helped save Miners Creek.

Largely through the help of Congressman Don Bonker, and a pointed boot placed in the right spot by Regional Forester Ted Schlapfer, who learned of the road not from his subordinates but from environmentalists, in March 1975 a revised land exchange was announced between Weyerhaeuser and the Forest Service. Already roaded and partially logged National Forest land west of St. Helens will be traded for Weyerhaeuser land (that darned Northern Pacific Land Grant again) along Miners Creek. Most of the creek valley will be left intact and a buffer of at least 1/4 mile be obtained.

Thanking Bonker and Schlapfer, Scott and Jones and Howard applauded the exchange, expressed hopes it was the first step in a comprehensive planning process, and said we would, of course, continue working for an 82,000 acre Mt. St. Helens National Monument.

— — Harvey Manning

Jane Frances Goldsworthy 1919 - 1974



Early in 1974, at the Tenth Biennial Wilderness Conference, Jane and her husband Pat were jointly awarded, by the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, the first John P. Saylor Wilderness Preservation Award, "in salute to their idealism, selfless dedication, persistence, and constant high spirits in working together to see created our North Cascades National Park ... their untiring leadership in saving wilderness and doing their part to make our earth whole again ..."

On December 30 Jane's part in our efforts ended as she succumbed to complications from her years-long siege by multiple sclerosis. As her illness progressed, Jane had been forced to gradually give up more and more of her work, which during the crucial years before 1968 was indispensable to the N3C. To the end, however, she was a source of inspiration to friends, her cheerfulness rarely faltering.

Remembrances are suggested to the North Cascades Foundation, 209 College Club Building, Seattle, WA 98104. A Jane Goldsworthy Memorial Fund has been established within the Foundation, and since her untimely death, her friends and admirers have contributed more than \$6,300 in her memory. Jane would be pleased to know that the wildlands she loved so well and for which she worked so hard in her brief life are being protected in her name after she has left us.

Polly Dyer discusses Washington State's Forest Practices Regulations

In 1974 and 1975 the Washington State Legislature directed that a Forest Practices Board be appointed to develop forest practices rules and regulations for commercial forest lands in private ownership and on public lands in state and local government jurisdictions, it being

"... in the public interest for public and private commercial forest lands to be managed consistent with sound policies of natural resource protection; that coincident with maintenance of a viable forest products industry, it is important to afford protection to forest soils, fisheries, wildlife, water quantity and quality, air quality, recreation, and scenic beauty."

The following board members were appointed. State department heads: Bert Cole (Natural Resources), chairman; John Biggs (Ecology); Jack Larsen (Commerce and Economic Development); Stewart Bledsoe (Agriculture). Appointed by Governor Dan Evans: Clark County Commissioner Dick Granger; Bob Wilson of Boise Cascade; Dick Woods, a consulting forester; David Knibb, forester-attorney and leader in ALPS; Polly Dyer, member of several conservation groups; Ray Oatfield, contract logger; and Harry Lydiard, owner of less than 500 acres of forest land.

After many field trips, recommendations by the Forest Practices Advisory Committee, public meetings and public hearings, and days of deliberations in meetings, the eleven-member Forest Practices Board issued "Washington Forest Practice Rules and Regulations" on July 16, 1976. The booklet, also including a Forest Practices Board Manual as "A Guide for Protecting Public Resources", can be obtained from the Department of Natural Resources, Olympia, Washington, 98504. To have a further understanding of the rules and regulations, the Forest Practices Act (RCW 76.09 of 1974, amended 1975) should be read. For example, "Public Resources" are defined as "water, fish and wildlife... and capital improvements". However, the August 1974 opinion of an Assistant Attorney General to the Board (saying in effect, the Board could not consider recreation and scenic beauty and, therefore, the size of clearcutting, for example, would not be examined on those particular merits) will not be found in the booklet. That issue was discussed with respect to requirements of wildlife for minimum escape distances to forested cover, but the majority of the Board and the Advisory Committee had little interest in that "public resource". A full discussion of the Forest Practices R & R would be too lengthy for this article; however, the concerns expressed below will give you an idea of the debates during formulation of the practices to govern timber cutting and reforestation in Washington State:

Statement Accompanying Adoption of Regulations by Some Forest Practices Board Members:

"The undersigned members of the Forest Practices Board believe our Forest Practices Regulations represent a major step forward both in enhancing timber management and in protecting public resources.

"We feel, however, that several subjects, including the following, require further consideration for possible inclusion in later modifications of these regulations, or represent areas for needed legislation attention. Without these changes, we believe that the purposes of the Forest Practices Act, including the protection of public resources, may not be adequately implemented.

"A major concern is that the value of intermittent Type 3 Water be given appropriate recognition in the regulations. Small streams are critical to this state's coho and cut-throat fishery. We fear that instream activity during the dry season may cause severe damage to spawning beds. Therefore, we suggest more thought be given to treating Type 3 Water as an integral unit, rather than maintaining separate regulations for non-flowing Type 3.

"Type 4 Water, by definition, affects downstream waters. We believe the minimum protection these waters should receive was included in earlier drafts and should be considered further for future reinsertion. This would consist of minimized streambed and bank disturbance during cable yarding, plus care to minimize potential slash and debris entry and accumulation in such waters.

"The Snag Falling Law should be amended so that those snags not presenting a distinct fire or safety hazard could be retained for wildlife habitat. A recent study in the Blue Mountain area points out that 38 bird and 24 mammal species are cavity users and that most are insectivorous. Thus, both forest landowner and public could benefit from a reasonable snag-retention program.

"Another serious concern in maximizing timber production on lands best suited to that use is the apparent non-uniform application by various counties of the State's Open Space Law. As a result of this lack of uniformity, some forest landowners are not receiving the tax incentives which this law was designed to provide, and which are needed to assure that these lands remain in active timber production. We feel the legislature should be asked to study the manner in which the Open Space Law is being implemented -- or not implemented -- by various counties. Optional use and varied interpretation can discriminate against the smaller woodlot owner. Conversely, this law could, and we believe should, be used to encourage owners of small parcels to keep their land in timber production.

"Other concerns related to shade requirements, water quality, wetland protection and wildlife management can, we believe, be resolved through what we anticipate will be on-going monitoring and research programs.

"We recognize that, despite the massive effort employed in preparing the regulations, field experience will indicate needed changes. To remain a viable document, the regulations must be reviewed periodically.

"As members of the Forest Practices Board, we trust that the concerns expressed in these comments will specifically be considered in early review phases."

Signed: David Knibb, Polly Dyer, John Biggs, Harry Lydiard. June 15, 1976.

HIGH ROSS DAM UPDATE

BY THE KAOPECTATE (né) KEROSENE KID

We last reported to you in late 1974 after the conclusion of the F. P. C. hearings on direct testimony. A lot of water has flowed under the bridge (and over the dam) since that time, and we'll try to bring you just a few of the choicer items:

January 21, 1975. Judge Alan Lande's travelling F. P. C. road show opens at the Seattle Federal Building for 9 days of rebuttal testimony. N3C rebuttal witnesses are Neal Butterworth, retired Park Service official, Patrick Goldsworthy, N3C president, board members Joe and Margaret Miller, U. W. economist Gardner Brown, and W. W. S. C. economist Howard Teasley. ROSS presents a number of biologists, economists and geographers from U. B. C. and Simon Fraser U.

Neal Butterfield (formerly in charge of the North Cascades master plan) testified that recreation in the complex would be better served at the lower level than at 1725 feet. Pat Goldsworthy submits a tabular comparison of recreational values of Big Beaver and other North Cascades valleys. This brings about a half-day attack on Pat's qualifications by City Light's \$100 an hour attorney, Robert McCarty.

Equally ferocious attacks are made on N3C's ecological witnesses, Joe and Margaret Miller, by attorney Rich White. Their rebuttal testimony is devoted to demolishing the scientific basis of the studies submitted by Grant (Old Cedar Tree) Sharpe and Prof. D. R. M. Scott. Particularly upsetting to Counsel White is the Millers' statement, "The Sharpe study falls more into the category of timber cruising than ecological research."

After producing a few thousand more pages of transcript, the Lande road show moves back to D. C., where City Light's rebuttal witnesses have their turn at the hands of our and ROSS's attorneys. The hearings end on March 5, 1975.

May 31, 1975. N3C attorneys Ric Aramburu and Tom Brucker submit an 181-page brief boiling down pertinent sections from 10,000 pages of transcript. Conclusions: High Ross power is small and expensive. Construction of the project would cause an irreplaceable loss of significant and rare resources.

June 30, 1975. Secret meetings begin between Seattle City Light and British Columbia officials. Presumably they are discussing ways for the province to buy back its "witless agreement" of 1967.

November 10, 1975. B. C. makes an offer of "some power" from the province at full market rates plus an increase of rental payments from City Light for flooded land from \$35,000 a year to \$3.5 million. Seattle turns it down.

February 4, 1976. Judge Lande, whose appreciation of "outdoor recreation" must not extend much beyond watching the Washington Redskins on TV, rules in favor of City Light. Typical comment in his decision: Big Beaver Valley is not popular for hiking and is difficult of access. Would be more valuable for recreation under water. "Ag-g-g-h-h!!!" N3C attorneys file briefs of exception.

February 26, 1976. The new B. C. Socred government announces it will provide "limited" funds to help environmental groups (Canadian groups only?) intervene in a legal challenge if High Ross receives approval of the F. P. C.

February 27, 1976. The Energy 1990 committee's report says, "Conservation of energy through elimination of waste and wise management of electricity use is the most attractive way of meeting future energy needs. There is no fixed relationship between jobs and energy consumption."

May 25, 1976. City Light revises the Energy 1990 study's projected annual growth rate upward by 20% without consulting the citizen members of the committee. All hell busts loose.

Winter, 1977. Where do we stand now after more than 8 years of this fight? The full F. P. C. will undoubtedly approve City Light's application--that's its business, licensing dams. Then we can turn belly-up and play dead, or we can appeal to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The Energy 1990 study blew City Light's projections into a cocked hat, and Judge Lande's decision was based on erroneous data. Our prospects in an appeal are excellent.

It will be costly, though. So far, N3C has spent \$16,999 and the North Cascades Foundation \$36,890 on this unfair struggle. But without N3C, the dam would have been raised years ago. Big Beaver Valley, with its giant cedars and beaver ponds, its birds and mammals, is still there. The Park Service has built a new Big Beaver bridge and a new campground at the mouth of Big Beaver Creek. More and more recreationist have discovered the valley. Hang in there, team! WE CAN'T LOSE IT NOW!

HARVEY MANNING:



The Tubing By Our Agents In The Trenches of the Tranquil Methow

The "tranquil Methow Valley", a Seattle newspaper recently described it, but insofar as the adjective any longer applies at all, winter is the sole season -- and for how long? Regrets felt by valley residents about construction of the North Gollydarn Highway were shown by the response to a 1975 survey made by the Methow River Basin Citizens Committee. Of 380 residents answering the questionnaire, 291 said they did not want the highway open in the winter. Following are some typical remarks:

"Leave the highway closed in winter -- we need a vacation from tourists...I would like to see the highway closed year around... It would be better to close it permanently... It destroyed the whole valley... We did not need the highway in the first place... It's a pity it's there... Turn it into a bicycle path..."

We must point out that had Methowites spoken up so vigorously a few years back, when "outside" preservationist groups did, they'd not have had the highway rammed down their valley by the handful of entrepreneurs who stood to benefit economically. Now, the highway is a reality, those who treasured the "old Methow" fear more potential wreckage is impending. The Highway Department has been conducting avalanche studies at Washington Pass to assess feasibility of keeping the highway open in winter. And Quintana and Exxon are up on Goat Mountain, drilling the ore to decide if they want to give the Methow a gigantic open-pit mine -- or several. And there's the mob of land speculators who have driven up the land values at Mazama to 10 times what they were in 1970.

And there's Aspen Skiing Corporation with its contemplated multimillion dollar ski resort on Sandy Butte, a development that would have a potential of 6,000 skiers a day and would explode the valley population, so it's said, from the present 2,500 to more than 12,000.

Until mid-1976 the boosters had it all their own way in the Methow. Led by the likes of Jack Abrams (Twisp garage owner, car dealer and chairman of the Okanogan Board of County Commissioners), they got the highway built and their cash registers jingling. Abrams and his friends are also pro-Aspen, seeing more profits. But Abrams has lost the position of esteem(?) he once held. At the Winthrop '49ers Festival parade in June 1975, one of the "floats" was a manure-spreader labeled "Abrams' Political Machine."

And wonder of wonders, in the 1976 primaries, Abrams and another pro-Aspen county commissioner were defeated. (Note, though, that Aspen was only one of many issues in the election.)

And no longer are anti-"progress" residents too polite to object to their neighbors' big plans. The Methow Valley Citizens Committee (successor to an earlier Preservation Committee) opposes Aspen because it feels the resort would remove the amenities which lead most residents, old and new, to stay in the valley.

However, being for Aspen is not necessarily being against the "old valley" values. Aspen Corporation says it would build a high-quality resort that by its very presence would help keep out the miners and the ticky-tack subdividers, would support efforts to guarantee that the 15 miles of valley between its holdings and Winthrop would not become an urban strip of secondary development.

In common with perhaps a majority of Methow folk, the N3C has not yet taken a stand for or against the Aspen plan, awaiting the environmental-impact statement being prepared by the U. S. Forest Service.

But with or without the Aspen resort on Sandy Butte, the future of the Methow remains a matter of deep concern to all who love it. The final report of the Methow Valley Land Use Advisory Committee, delivered in July 1975 to the Okanogan County Planning Commission, was not reassuring, the "compromises" between preservation and development casting little light and leaving much fog. Much will depend on the political temper of the Post-Abrams Era.

Watch this space for further reports.

* * *

Harvey Manning, former editor of The Wild Cascades, is now unemployed, both in that capacity and as the Irate Birdwatcher.



In 1971 the U. S. Forest Service began a study which ultimately led to a major change in the way land management decisions were made. The study began as an inventory of existing, unprotected roadless areas on Forest Service lands, followed by setting aside for further detailed study those which appeared to be of the highest quality -- and the lowest timber productivity. In part a legitimate recognition by the Forest Service that their responsibility to the Wilderness System was not being fully discharged by the existing Wildernesses and Primitive Areas, the study was in all likelihood an attempt to contain the growing wilder-

LAND USE PLANS

by Dick Fiddler

ness movement and to deflect criticism that the Forest Service was doing nothing to deal with local "de facto" wilderness controversies.

However, the study had originated in a new environmental climate and under the guidelines of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As a direct result, a court ban was imposed on the development -- roading or logging -- of any roadless area without a full discussion of the pros and cons of an environmental impact statement (EIS). This decision made a formal land use planning process with full public involvement a necessity for all roadless areas. In fact, the Forest Service wisely chose to begin a formal land use planning process for all its lands, nationwide. We are now in the fourth year of this new process; a good time for a review.

First, the inventory: In Washington State 2.9 million acres of unprotected roadless "de facto wilderness" was found. Small parcels, missed in the first round, have since been added. Of this total, one million acres, or just over a third, were set aside in 1973 as "New Study Areas" (NSAs), to remain wild pending formal study during the 1973-88 time period. Major Washington NSAs included Alpine Lakes, Cou-

ROADLESS AREAS AND

gar Lakes (south unit only), Glacier Peak Wilderness additions (including Buck and Downey Creeks and territory to the south in the Monte Cristo area and on the Cascade Crest), the Boulder River area, Mt. Margaret (but not Mt. St. Helens!), and several areas on the East Front of the Olympics. These NSAs and the existing Wilderness Areas are not affected by the land use plans.

To carry out the planning process, the Forests have been broken down into Planning Units of various sizes; generally large except in the Colville, Gifford Pinchot, and Olympic National Forests. The plans typically proceed along the following steps:

1. Information gathering by the Forest Service.
2. Publication of Alternative plans and requests for public comment.
3. Publication of a draft EIS -- sometimes featuring a tentative decision. Open for public comment.
4. Publication of final EIS after consideration of response to draft. Includes proposed decision.
5. Final decision to implement the plan, generally outlined in the final EIS.

Roadless lands in the Planning Units may be allocated to NSA status, some other lesser form of protection such as Scenic Area, dispersed recreation zone, special management, etc.; or returned to full multiple use, often implying roading and timber harvest. In the remainder of this article the current status of the major planning units in Washington will be outlined, proceeding at first clockwise around the Cascades beginning with the Okanogan country.

1. Twisp-Winthrop-Conconully Planning Unit, Okanogan National Forest: This large unit includes most of the high country east of the North Cascades National Park and north of Sawtooth Ridge, above Lake Chelan. Final EIS was released September 1976. Supervisor decision to implement is expected in spring 1977. The proposed decision sets aside two small additional NSAs, Long Draw and Long Swamp. Scenic Area status, without roads or harvest, is proposed for 303,610 acres. Scenic Roadless status is less secure than wilderness designation but is a step in the right direction. Other areas are proposed for recreation-roadless management but permitting some harvest. Finally, several smaller roadless areas will return to timber management.
2. Tonasket Planning Unit, Okanogan National Forest: Scattered parcels east of the Okanogan River and Mt. Bonaparte are included. Draft EIS is in preparation.
3. Chelan Planning Unit, Wenatchee National Forest: This is another large unit east of the Cascade Crest, reaching from the Alpine Lakes area north to Lake Chelan and Sawtooth Ridge. A final decision was issued November 1976, adding the upper Entiat as a NSA and establishing a Scenic Area for the ranges north and south of Lake Chelan, adjacent to the one proposed in the Okanogan National Forest. Special management will keep Devil's Gulch in a natural state. Some small roadless areas and the Mad River area will return to timber harvest.
4. Alpine Lakes Management Area, Wenatchee and Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forests: Wilderness was established by act of Congress on July 12, 1976. Management plan for surrounding area (including Nason Ridge) is under study. Scenic Areas and dispersed recreation zone were established.
5. Naches-Tieton-White River Planning Unit, Wenatchee and Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forests: This unit includes both north and south units of proposed Cougar Lakes Wilderness, plus the Clearwater drainage on Mt. Rainier National Park's north boundary. Draft EIS expected early 1977.
6. Cougar Lakes Wilderness Study (Part of unit above): A separate draft Wilderness Proposal is expected for early 1977, along with public hearings in the spring. It is expected that the agency will propose wilderness only for the unit south of the Chinook Pass highway (US 410).
7. Skykomish Planning Unit, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest: This is a small unit including the Merchant-Gunn peaks and Mt. Stickney. No alternatives brochure (Step 2) will be published, but full public input will be sought at the time of the Draft EIS, to display several alternatives.
8. Mt. Baker Planning Unit, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest: All the old Mt. Baker National Forest is included, from Monte Cristo north to the Canadian border on the west slopes. This unit contains several prime roadless areas: Lost Creek Ridge, Meadow Mountain, Diobsub Creek, Mt. Baker itself, and the Tomyhoi-Silesia area north of the Nooksack road. Draft EIS is in preparation. Public input to alternatives brochure showed especially strong support for additional wilderness.
9. Gifford Pinchot National Forest: Several small units are in various stages of completion:
 - Clear Creek and Upper Lewis Planning Unit: Final EIS published.
 - Upper Cispus, Trapper, and Siouxon Planning Units: Draft EIS is in preparation.
 - Cowlitz Planning Unit: Alternatives brochure available.
10. Olympic National Forest: Soleduck and Quinault Planning Units are completed; one additional NSA (Colonel Bob) and a roadless recreation zone on Moonlight Dome. Canal Front Planning Unit has just completed the public input phase on alternatives; draft EIS is in preparation.
11. Colville National Forest: Draft EIS has been released for the area between Republic and Kettle Falls (Kettle Crest Planning Unit).

Planning is just beginning for area east of Colville.

In summary, the plans so far completed have extended either Wilderness study, Scenic or some other sort of protection to some of the prime areas which failed to receive NSA status in 1973. This has caused no significant impact on commercial timber. Naturally, the Forest Service finds it easiest to protect areas not in conflict, but in addition it must be noted that all the remaining "non-selected" roadless areas are the leftovers from the great land clearing projects of recent decades. The good timber sites have long since been roaded. In

fact, if all the "non-selected" roadless areas in Washington State were added to the Wilderness System, the long-run impact would be only 3.5% of current harvest levels.

Several of the plans are still in progress, and N3C members can continue to make a difference in the outcomes. From time to time you will receive special mailings on major issues, asking for your letters or presence at a hearing. In addition, many of you know and love particular areas whose fates are still unknown. Your active, continuing involvement will be of great aid to the N3C in the months and years to come.

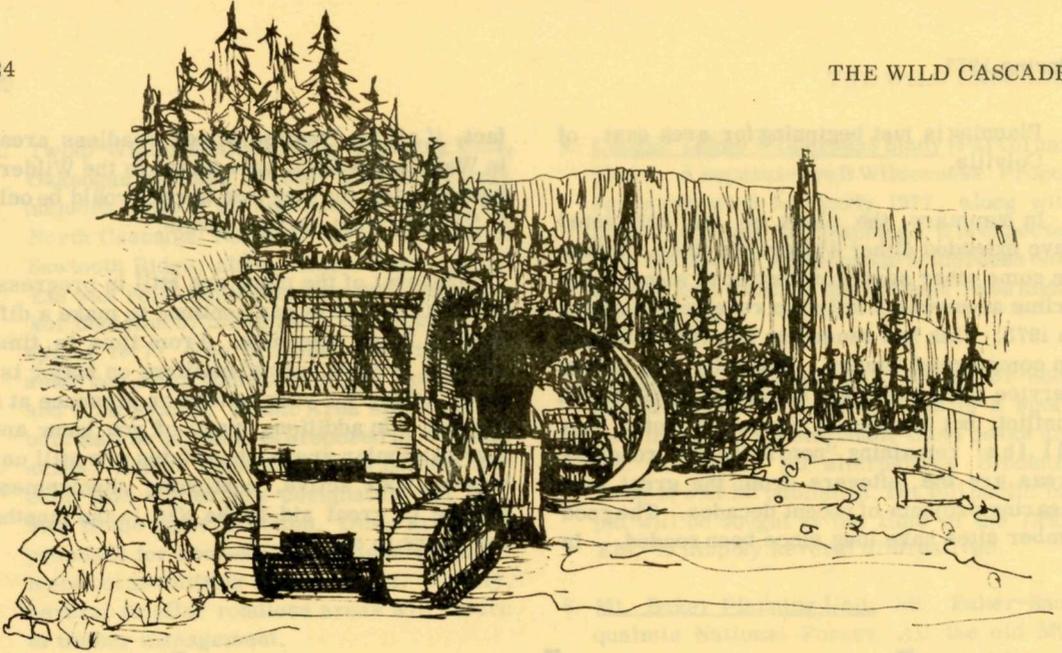
whatever happened to the I-90 suit?

Anyone driving over Snoqualmie Pass recently could see the highway builders back at work. Did we lose the whole battle after our day in court? Not quite. While work has resumed, it is not the same highway that was being built when construction was stopped by the courts. We did receive a far-reaching decision from the Ninth Circuit Court that will be useful in other cases.

In 1970, three organizations and two individuals filed suit to stop the construction of the west bound lanes of I-90. We contended that European technology provided a better method of highway location and construction. Moreover, we charged that the Highway Department hadn't complied with the terms of the National Environmental Policy Act. The courts agreed that the law was being violated, and that an Environmental Impact Statement was required. Most importantly, the Ninth Circuit Court ruled that even though the highway did not physically invade the Denny Creek Campground or Asahel Curtis, the proximity of the sight, sound, and fumes of the highway constituted a "taking" under the terms of the Highway Act, which precludes the taking of public park lands unless there is no "viable and prudent alternative". Unfortunately, the

courts allowed construction to proceed for two years while the state fumbled with its reports. Finally, after the second appeal, the Ninth Circuit Court shutdown the project.

This was, ironically a fortuitous decision for the State. In preparing its impact statements, the State realized that avalanches would inundate the highway it had been building. A team of German engineers was hired to report on using European technology to build attractive and less expensive structures. This firm studied building a structure above the present highway, thus abandoning the work done on the north side of the valley. Another alternative would have utilized a part of the work already completed on the north side, and taken the road completely out of Asahel Curtis. Our original contention was vindicated when the consulting engineers showed very attractive costs for a double-decked roadway on the present alignment. The report, also signed by the State, concluded that this method would be "most appropriate" for Snoqualmie Pass. The Court previously had decided that under the Highway Act, the State could not build I-90 at that location if there was a "viable and prudent alternative". The State's own report concluded that such an alternative did exist.



For the third time, we returned to District Court. The State had its revised impact statement ready, and we were armed with a fine alternative that would not clobber the other side of the valley. The State's only hope was to impeach its own report, which it spared no effort in doing. In order for the judge to decide against us, he had to find that there was no "viable alternative". He did so by deciding that the German System was not practical because it had never been used in North America. That decision was enough to destroy one's faith in the American judicial system. The fatal problem was that the judge could not forget the millions spent on the barbaric construction allowed by the courts to proceed for two years before the project was shut down. The law was, and still is, on our side, but he could not forget the millions. So he found a flimsy legal position to let work continue.

In appeals court for the third time, we also had a new ballgame. This time we were confronted by three new judges who were not environmentally concerned. One blasted our lawyer before he had time to start his argument. Even though we had a firm lock on the legal issues, the decision was a foregone conclusion by the end of the hearing. The Highway Department was freed to go back to work, but under constraints. Under the mandate of the Highway Act, the Highway Department had to do everything possible to minimize environmental damage, or we could go back to court.

In the meantime, a minor miracle had occurred in Olympfa. To remove the threat

of avalanches, it was decided to elevate the roadway from west of Denny Creek to Franklin Falls. The engineers became intrigued by the German construction method, and allowed contractors to submit alternate bids on that design. Lo and behold, the low bid utilized the European system! So the trial judge was wrong on all counts, and the arguments in our opening brief were accurate in every respect.

The highway will be substantially more attractive than the one originally contemplated. The right-of-way will be considerably narrower, with trees growing under the structure. The Highway Department is taking substantial remedial measures to eliminate damage done before the shutdown, under the previous contract. We have that landmark decision from the Circuit Court that sight and sound impact constitutes a taking of land. It has and will be cited in other cases. We surely got their attention, and it is extremely doubtful that the Highway Department will ever again return to their old, heavy-handed ways. Still, several design changes that would have made the highway less imposing were rejected, and the work's progress must be carefully monitored for the next two years.

This brings us to the big debt we still owe for the years of legal battles. It's not like paying for a dead horse, and a large financial burden will be removed from a few individuals if many people would send a tax-deductible contribution to the North Cascades Foundation, c/o Joe Miller, 15405 S.E. 9th, Bellevue, Washington 98007.

MT. RAINIER PARK DEFENDERS, TO THE BARRICADES!

by Russ
Jolly

The Cowlitz Planning Unit of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest adjoins the south and west boundaries of Mt. Rainier National Park. This Planning Unit contains two areas of vital concern to Mt. Rainier Park Defenders, the 4,000 acre Glacier View area on the west and the 16,000 acre Tatoosh area on the south, both of which should be added to the Park. A management alternatives brochure for the Cowlitz Planning Unit is now available from the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, 500 West 12th, Vancouver, WA 98660.

For Mt. Rainier Park Defenders, Alternative #1 is far and away the best, since it designates most of the Tatoosh and Glacier View areas for Wilderness Study. However, even Alternative #1 falls short in that the Forest Service has failed to inventory all of the roadless area in each of these. Section 32, the northernmost section of the Glacier View area, contains lovely Lake Helen and the fine wilderness trail leading to it from the south, but was not inventoried as part of the Glacier View Roadless Area. Another error was the failure to inventory a narrow but significant strip along the Park's southern boundary west of Johnson Lake. This strip, which actually faces the Park and drains into it, should be included in the Tatoosh Wilderness Study Area of Alternative #1. Perhaps it is merely coincidental that the Five-Year Action Plan calls for roads and logging in each of the two omitted areas. Mt. Rainier Park Defenders, please write for the brochure and support Alternative #1, but insist on inclusion in the Wilderness Study of Section 32 (Lake Helen) and the southern boundary strip.

In the brochure, the Forest Service solicits opinions on land ownership adjustments. Of prime interest to us is transfer of Glacier View and Tatoosh to the Park. Also important is privately-owned Section 33, between Section 32 and the Park boundary. Over the years, Section 33 has been almost totally logged off by its private owner, creating hideous road and logging scars on strip land which faces the Park. In its land ownership adjustment program the Forest Service should seek to acquire Section 33 and attempt to rehabilitate this eyesore.

A feature of Alternatives #2 and #3 but not of Alternative #1 is the proposal to construct new campgrounds on National Forest land near the Longmire entrance to the Park. Park Defenders should mention their support of these new campgrounds which would relieve the pressure on campgrounds inside the Park.

The Forest Service would like to have comments before January 15, 1977, but even if received later, your views will be counted. The best time to act is NOW.

* * *

Russ Jolly is a long-time N3C member and authority on Washington's southern Cascades.

recent N3C Board resolutions

I. "The North Cascades Conservation Council is unalterably opposed to the routing of an officially designated 'Pacific Northwest Trail' anywhere within the boundaries of the Pasayten Wilderness Area and the North Cascades National Park. This stand is occasioned by the following concerns of the Council:

1. Trail use in both the North Cascades National Park and the Pasayten Wilderness Area is already approaching a maximum. In order to protect the resource, the National Park Service has been forced to ration back-country permits on lands under its jurisdiction. While the U. S. Forest Service has not yet taken so drastic a step, it recognizes the problem and is developing data on carrying capacity of lands in the Pasayten Wilderness. The only possible trail routes through the above federal lands cross extremely fragile areas not suitable for mass-recreation use. It is a certainty that creation of a national scenic trail through these areas would attract more trail users than the resource can withstand.

2. Experience with the Pacific Crest Trail has shown that designation of a 'national scenic trail' causes the land-management agencies to spend disproportionate amounts of funds on the construction and maintenance of the designated trail. These funds are siphoned off from construction and maintenance of more needed trails in other areas.

3. As has been shown by the example of the Pacific Crest Trail, a 'national scenic trail' is constructed to high standards inconsistent with the National Wilderness Preservation System. Such construction imposes irreversible damage on the wilderness resource and detracts from the wilderness experience of the visitor."

* * *

II. "The North Cascades Conservation Council, recognizing the beauty and environmental value of the Methow Valley and its surrounding wildlands, urges that measures be taken through amendment of the comprehensive county plan, passage of strong zoning ordinances and United States Forest Service planning, to protect the Valley's rural character.

Influence of a major destination ski resort could easily spread over the length of the Valley. The history of similar developments clearly shows that without extraordinarily careful planning, there is little hope of restraining wholesale conversion of farmland.

We also believe, therefore, that the current development moratorium in the upper Valley must be continued.

Following the enactment of county planning and zoning, the North Cascades Conservation Council will consider an overall plan for any ski development on its merits."

* * *

III. "The N3C recommends to the U. S. Forest Service that no more logging roads be scheduled in the Whitechuck Valley of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest."

* * *

IV. "The N3C reaffirms its proposal for a Cougar Lakes Wilderness and requests the U. S. Forest Service to hold public hearings on the subject at the earliest convenient time, no later than April or May 1977, with at least one hearing to be held in Seattle."

* * *

V. "The N3C reaffirms its opposition to the raising of Bumping Lake Dam and enlargement of Bumping Lake and requests that the Bureau of Reclamation officially abandon the project and that the land withdrawn for the enlarged reservoir be cancelled,"

* * *

VI. "The N3C Board of Directors supports the position of the Olympic Park Associates and endorses Alternative B of the five management alternatives for the Canal Front Planning Unit developed by the Olympic National Forest. Support of the Olympic Park Associates also extends to request for study and designation of the Duckabush River as a Wild, Scenic, and Recreation River."

review/ isabelle lynn preview the cougar lakes



Mary Randlett photo

The first week of April 1977 the Forest Service will release its proposal for a Cougar Lakes Wilderness Area and the Environmental Impact Statement for the Naches Tieton White River Land Use Study, with public hearings planned for July, according to Don R. Campbell, Supervisor of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. While Mr. Campbell is no longer directly responsible for the Cougar Lakes area (recently transferred to the Wenatchee National Forest) his responsibility in the matter of wilderness designation for this area continues.

As late as November, there was still talk of allowing yet another summer for a "look on the ground" at the proposed area. The North Cascades Conservation Council resolution expressing continuing commitment to the Wilderness proposal and indicating the organization's status as the proposal's original sponsor, I believe tipped the balance in favor of hearings in 1977. Any postponement by the Forest Service at this juncture would have to be viewed as a delaying tactic.

For N3C members not familiar with the proposal's background, a brief review is in order.

The Cougar Lakes proposal was developed from 1958 to 1961 by a small group of people who knew and loved the area. Justice William O. Douglas was a dedicated member of that group. The original proposal was a modest one -- about 125,000 acres in the Snoqualmie and Gifford Pinchot National Forests, all of it south of Chinook Pass, the western boundary a common one with Mt. Rainier National Park, the north-south boundaries Chinook and White Passes, and extending east as far as logging roads permit. In 1961, the N3C became the first organization to sponsor the proposal, largely through the efforts of Chuck Hessey, then N3C vice president, who knows the area as well as anyone ever has.

Following a trip into the area in the early sixties, the late Harvey Broome, the president of the Wilderness Society, and George Marshall, a Wilderness Society Council member, gave the proposed Wilderness Area the Society's endorsement. Mr. Broome wrote of his eye-opening trip: "It is unbelievable to me that so small an area can pack such a wallop of experiences."

Knowledgeable conservationists describe the areas as "instant" wilderness, so spectacular, so intact, that it is truly ready made.

The Cascadians and The Mountaineers endorsed the proposal; the Sierra Club and Friends of the Earth endorsed it; likewise the Audubon Society, the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs and the Washington Environmental Council.

The proposal already has a legislative history. In March 1971, when the late Congressman John P. Saylor of Pennsylvania introduced his Omnibus Wilderness Bill, Brock Evans, who was working with him on it, included a "North Unit" (north of Chinook Pass). The North Unit has a history of limited protection by the Forest Service, for the original Cougar Lakes Limited Area, set aside in the forties by the Forest Service, included a great deal of what conservationists now propose for Wilderness Area designation.

In December 1971, Senator Henry M. Jackson introduced his bill on the subject, calling for a National Recreation Area of 267,000 acres, or roughly the entire area between Chinook and White Passes, except Mt. Rainier. The bill provided for a two-year study of 152,000 acres (all in the South Unit) as a wilderness core within the NRA. Mike McCormack, Washington's Fourth District Congressman, introduced companion legislation in the House.

Some of the areas proposed in Saylor's bill, Lincoln Backcountry, for example, have already become Wilderness. The Jackson-McCormack bills both died with the adjournment of Congress. Legislation based upon more recent studies and information must be reintroduced.

In June 1972, at the behest of the Yakima Valley Audubon Society, the Cougar Lakes Wilderness Alliance was formed, an affiliation of all the backers of the Wilderness proposal. A pamphlet put out by the Alliance describing the area can be obtained from the Puget Sound Group of the Sierra Club, REI, or by writing the Alliance, P. O. Box 2634, Yakima WA 98902.

In addition to the encouraging news that things are now moving forward with the Forest Service's release of the proposal and scheduled hearings, the Alliance received a splendid Christmas present from Mike McCormack, who wrote me on November 11, "Of course I will be delighted to work with you on the Cougar Lakes Wilderness Area. I am quite disappointed that the Forest Service chose to delay public hearings for as long as they did. . . "

Things are looking up for '77, but the area continues to need all the help and support it can get.

* * *

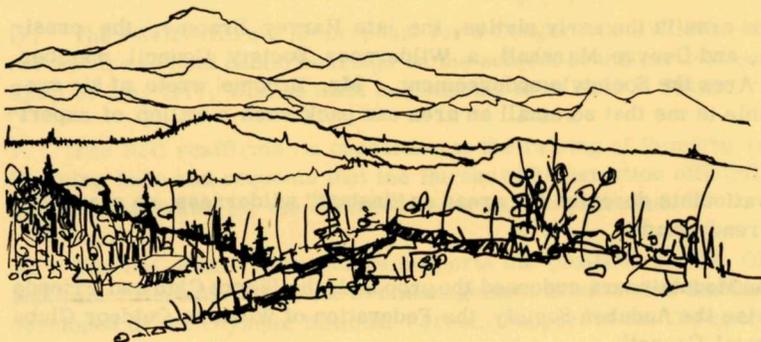
Isabelle Lynn is President and a charter member of the Cougar Lakes Wilderness Alliance.

* * *

Recreational Equipment Incorporated has compiled a slide show of the Cougar Lakes to be shown in conjunction with their weekly outdoor clinics. The show is also available on loan. Contact Pam Rogers at REI, (206)-323-8333.

* * *

A recent Mountaineers publication details the many abuses perpetrated in the South Cascades. The South Cascades: The Gifford Pinchot National Forest by E. M. Sterling, photographs by Bob and Ira Spring, \$4.95, includes a number of proposals for protection of the area. The book is available in bookstores or from the Mountaineers, 719 Pike Street, Seattle WA 98101.



THE GLACIER PEAK WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT PLAN

joe miller

The management plan for the Glacier Peak area was approved in its final form by the U. S. Forest Service on July 9, 1976. The plan, based on a draft by Russell W. Koch and John C. Hendee of the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, incorporates public input from a workshop held in May, 1975 and attended by N3C president Patrick Goldsworthy.

The overall goal of the plan is to manage the area in such a way as to minimize the impact of use rather than to minimize use per se. "Management will seek to preserve spontaneity of use and as much freedom from regimentation as possible while preserving the naturalness of the wilderness resource . . ."

Some highlights of the plan:

All overnight visitors entering the wilderness are required to obtain a wilderness permit. Permits are to be used primarily as educational and management tools. Using permits to ration use will be a last resort, when all other management techniques have failed to control impact on the wilderness resource.

All available alternatives will be exhausted prior to the construction of sanitary facilities, and existing backcountry toilets will be evaluated at times of replacement to determine the merit of their continued existence in the wilderness.

Trails will be built to the standard appropriate for the planned use, and present portions of the wilderness without trails will not be significantly decreased by new trail construction. Campsites will be encouraged and, if necessary, relocated away from through trails.

Signs will be used only when necessary to protect the wilderness resource, such as to designate campsites, protect fragile areas or help disperse use. Signs will not be provided solely for user orientation, convenience, education or interpretation.

Information and education about the wilderness will be provided through improved training of Forest Service personnel and periodic revisions of educational/informative publications.

The plan's objective is to allow fire, forest diseases and insects to play a more natural role in the wilderness ecosystem. Forest diseases and insects will not be controlled except where there is a clear and imminent danger to timber or other values outside the wilderness. A special fire management plan must be developed and approved before fires can be allowed to burn without suppression.

Procedural requirements and intent of the National Environmental Policy Act will be followed in evaluating requests for mining-related land uses on Forest Service lands. Geothermal leasing anywhere in the wilderness will be opposed.

* * *

Joe Miller serves as treasurer of the North Cascades Conservation Council and is Director of North Cascades Foundation.

Forest Management Act clears Congress

After a year-long struggle, Congress passed, on September 30, the National Forest Management Act. Environmentalists consider the results a small gain in the long effort to establish greater control of the Forest Service's timber management policies.

For the last seven or eight years, environmentalists have been actively attempting to get Congress to take a serious look at timber management legislation which would reduce the timber industry's dominance of the Forest Service. Because the issue is so controversial and the sides so polarized, Congress has been very unwilling to deal with the problem in any substantive way.

The Monongahela lawsuit forced Congress to take up the issue. The timber industry viewed the court decision as a threat to clearcutting on all national forest land; they subsequently became advocates of Congressional action. Their motivation, of course, was simply to amend that section of the Forest Service Organic Act upon which the Monongahela decision was based. It was our hope that the price industry would have to pay for amending the law would be better forest management controls on the Forest Service. Despite a rather poor performance in Washington, D.C. by the conservation organizations leading this lobbying effort, we came out on the plus side rather than on the minus. How we managed to do that remains something of a mystery, considering the rather confused lobbying effort.

The following fact sheet, provided by Congressman Jim Weaver's office, outlines the important provisions in this new legislation:

1. Defines sustained yield to mean non-declining, even flow, except that in order to meet overall multiple use objectives, the annual harvest may depart from the standard if it is consistent with the land use plan for the National Forest. Additional annual departure is permissible if the 10 year average remains within the even flow limitation.

2. Clearcutting--The Forest Service must insure that "timber will be harvested from National Forest System lands only where-- 1) soil, slopes and watershed will not be "irreversibly damaged;" 2) assurance that lands can be "adequately restocked within five years after harvest;" 3) protection for streams and other bodies of water from "detrimental" changes where "harvests are likely to seriously and adversely affect water conditions or fish habitat;" and 4) that the harvesting system (clearcutting and other systems of harvesting) are not "selective primary"

because it will give the greatest dollar return on the greatest unit output of timber."

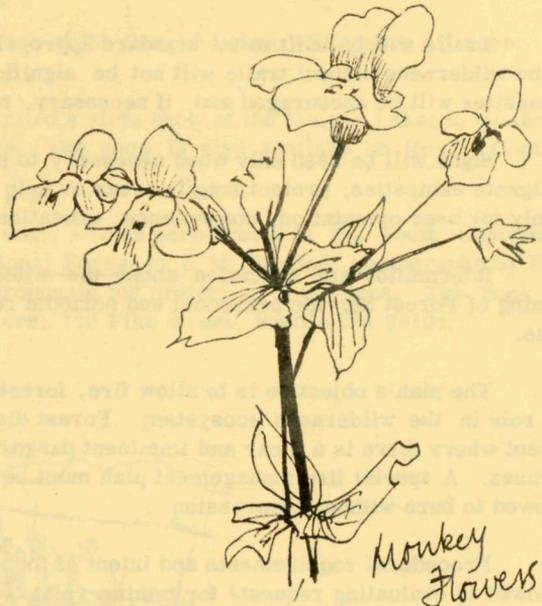
3. Marginal lands--The Forest Service "shall identify lands within the management area which are not suited for timber production, considering physical, economic, and other pertinent factors to the extent feasible. . . no timber harvesting shall occur on such lands for a period of 10 years."

4. Authorizes the expenditure of \$200 million a year for eight years to reduce the reforestation backlog.

5. Includes in the calculation for returning 25% of timber receipts to counties the amounts allowed purchasers for road construction and reforestation. This provision will save Oregon property taxpayers an estimated \$20 million annually.

6. In addition to the clearcutting guidelines, the Forest Service will be required to promulgate guidelines to establish a series of environmental protections for the National Forests.

7. Broadens purposes for which timber purchaser deposits under the Knutson-Vandenberg Act may be used to include "protecting and improving the future



Monkey
Flowers

productivity of the renewable resources of the forest land on such sale area, including sale area improvement operations, maintenance and construction, reforestation and wildlife habitat."

8. Calls for the Forest Service to include in its 5 year program recommendation an evaluation of the impact of raw log exports and imports on domestic timber supplies and prices.

9. Bill repeals sections of the Organic Act of 1897 that have formed the basis for court decisions stopping timber sales in West Virginia.

10. Makes statutory the present National Forest System, so that National Forests may not be returned to the public domain except by Act of Congress.

11. Validates timber sales made pursuant to Organic Act.

12. Provides that sealed bids shall be used for timber sales but the Forest Service may provide otherwise for any reason.

Congressman Jim Weaver deserves our highest praise for his leadership in the House Agriculture Committee. Despite the fact that Weaver comes from the largest timber producing District in the United States, he was willing to put his name on the line in support of better timber management legislation. Much of what we got through the House Committee can be credited to his leadership.

Weaver's performance is in sharp contrast to the rest of our delegation, which supported the industry's tune. Rep. Les AuCoin, for example, during the final House floor debate to beat back any statutory definition of "Sustained Yield," rationalized that the Forest Service is already operating under the Multiple-Use Sustained Yield Act of 1960 and that no further definition was necessary. Environmentalists argued that the definition could be dis-



torted to suit industry's needs if enough pressure was applied. For example, as late as 1972 the Forest Service defined Sustained Yield to mean "the ability to maintain the land in such condition that it can continue to grow trees." With the continued overcutting on private lands, it is obvious that the timber industry will increase its pressure on the Forest Service to overcut our land. For this reason the timber industry was adamantly opposed to any statutory definition which would mandate an even flow of timber from the public lands.

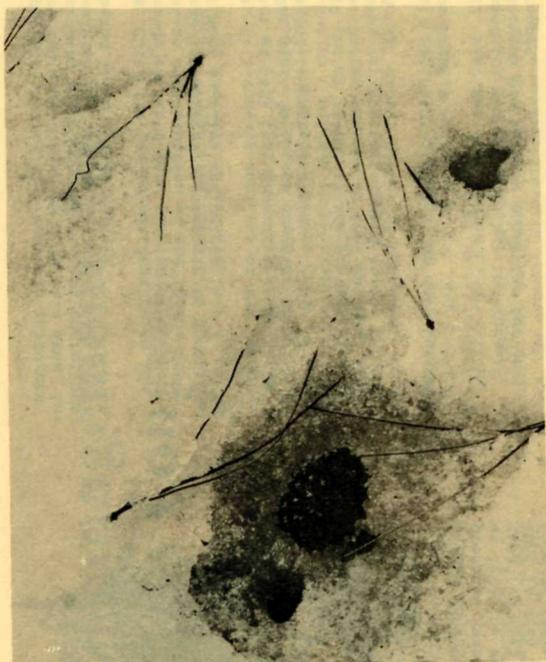
The enactment of the National Forest Management Act should bring about a better balance of the uses made of the national forest resources. Emphasis is given to greater public involvement and the "interdisciplinary" approach in the development of the Forest Service management plans. Also, the new act may help bring a halt to the timber cutting abuses that have resulted in widespread public discontent and litigation.

--Larry Williams

The preceding article appeared originally in the November 1976 issue of Earthwatch Oregon.

recycle

Through the efforts of Environment Northwest, charitable groups will be PAID for newspapers, glass, tin cans, aluminum, and scrap metal brought to the two Seattle transfer stations. Ask the attendant for a sheet to record the weight of your materials. Weigh them on the inside scale, and record Environment Northwest, Account No. 1, as the receiving group. Environment Northwest makes annual contributions to the N3C. If everyone participates, this will be a major source of funds.



THE WILD CASCADES

Spring 1977

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